Foreword

The Agile Manifesto, published in 2001, has been a significant milestone for the agile software movement. Individuals and interactions, working software, customer collaboration, and responding to change are the core values that have also demarcated the main directions for agile practice and research in the last decade. Recently, resurrected and claimed to be the next wave of software process, the lean approach in software development adds a new dimension to the agile methods family.

A similar manifesto exists for Service Oriented Architecture (SOA). Created in 2009, the SOA Manifesto is a set of objectives and guiding principles for a clear vision of SOA and service-orientation. The format of the manifesto resembles that of the Agile Manifesto. But this is not the only similarity between the two. Business value, strategic goals, flexibility, and evolutionary refinement are prioritized items in the SOA Manifesto which match those declared in the Agile one, resonantly and consistently.

Intriguing questions one may ask include: What happens when service orientation is used in an agile software development environment? Will we get the full potential of both worlds? If you ponder over the same questions, you should keep on reading this book. The book casts light on the overlapping area of the agile/lean approaches and service oriented development, and highlights potential synergy from the combination of both phenomena. New issues, new challenges, and new research directions have been investigated, and interesting initial outcomes are presented. I believe that the book is one of the first systematic and comprehensive endeavors to generate the useful synergy of both fields. Therefore, it offers particular value to researchers and practitioners who want to explore this intriguing avenue in more depth. It will be a roadmap to attract more researchers and university students to research and study in this area, and allow practitioners to learn from valuable previous experiences.

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